

H. Res. 580, the rule providing for consideration of the bill was agreed to by a voice vote, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea and nay vote of 223 yeas to 202 nays, Roll No. 98.

Pages H1700–01

Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users—

Order of Business: Agreed that it be in order at any time for the Speaker to declare the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of H.R. 3550, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and that consideration of the bill proceed according to the following order: the first reading of the bill is dispensed with; all points of order against consideration of the bill are waived; general debate shall not exceed two hours and 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure (including a final period of ten minutes to follow consideration of the bill for amendment) and 30 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means; after the initial period of general debate, the Committee of the Whole shall rise without motion; and no further consideration of H.R. 3550 shall be in order except pursuant to a subsequent order of the House.

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Quorum Calls—Votes: Seven yea and nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings today and appear on pages H1659–60, H1660–61, H1700–01, H1701–02, H1701, H1711, H1712 and H1712–13. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Committee Meetings

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, JUDICIARY AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee Commerce, Justice, State, Judiciary and Related Agencies held a hearing on NOAA. Testimony was heard from Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr., Under Secretary and NOAA Administrator, Department of Commerce.

The Subcommittee also continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on U.S. Air Force. Testimony was heard from James G. Roche, Secretary of the Air Force.

The Subcommittee also met in executive session to hold a hearing on U.S. Air Force Acquisition. Testimony was heard from Gen. John P. Jumper, USAF, Chief of Staff, Department of the Air Force.

HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing on Science and Technology. Testimony was heard from Charles McQueary, Under Secretary, Science and Technology, Department of Homeland Security.

LABOR, HHS, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NAVY FORCE STRUCTURE AND SHIP CONSTRUCTION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Projection Forces held a hearing on Navy Force Structure and Ship Construction. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Navy: John J. Young, Assistant Secretary (Research, Development and Acquisition); VADM John B. Nathman, USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (N–7) (Warfare Requirements and Programs); and VADM James C. Dawson, Jr., USN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (N–8) (Resources, Requirements and Assessments); Ronald O'Rourke, Specialist in National Defense, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and a public witness.

LOGISTICS: LESSONS FROM OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing on Logistics: Lessons from OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM and Logistics Transformation. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: MG Robert T. Dail, USA, Director, Operations, TCJ3, United States Transportation Command; VADM Keith W. Lippert, USN, Director, Defense Logistics Agency; LTG Claude V. Christianson, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, G4, Department of the Army; and BG Edward G. Usher III, USMC, Assistant Commandant for Installation and Logistics, U.S. Marine Corps.

SUBPRIME LENDING

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit and the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity held a joint hearing entitled "Subprime Lending: Defining the Market and Its Customers." Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

“A SYSTEM RUED: INSPECTING FOOD”

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Civil Service and Agency Organization held a hearing entitled “A System Rued: Inspecting Food.” Testimony was heard from Lawrence J. Dyckman, Director, National Resources and Environment, GAO; the following officials of the USDA: Robert E. Brackett, Director, Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, FDA; and Merle Pierson, Deputy Under Secretary, Food Safety; Dan Glickman, former Secretary of Agriculture; and a public witness.

DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT EFFECTIVENESS

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources held a hearing entitled “Measuring the Effectiveness of Drug Addiction Treatment.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: Charles Currie, Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; and Nora D. Volkow, M.D., Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIH; and public witnesses.

IMPACT OF HEALTH PROTECTION PROGRAMS ON GUARD AND RESERVE UNITS

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations held a hearing entitled “Does the ‘Total Force’ Add Up? The Impact of Health Protection Programs on Guard and Reserve Units.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: William Winkenwerder, M.D., Assistant Secretary, Health Affairs; LTG James B. Peake, M.D., The Surgeon General, U.S. Army; Specialist John A. Ramsey, 32nd Army Air Missile Defense Command, Florida National Guard; Specialist First Class Scott Emde, 20th Special Forces Group, B Company, 3rd Battalion, Virginia National Guard; and Specialist Timothy McMichael, U.S. Army Reserves, Medical Hold Unit, Fort Knox, Kentucky.

NATION’S CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY

Committee on Government Reform: Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census held a hearing entitled “Telecommunication and SCADA: Secure Links or Open Portals to the Security of the Nation’s Critical Infrastructure.” Testimony was heard from Robert F. Dacey, Director, Information Security Issues, GAO; James McDonald, Director, Protective Security Division, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

ADMINISTRATION AND NONPROLIFERATION

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on the Bush Administration and Nonproliferation: A New Strategy Emerges. Testimony was heard from John R. Bolton, Under Secretary, Arms Control and International Security, Department of State; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution held an oversight hearing on The Defense of Marriage Act. Testimony was heard from John Hanes, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee, State of Wyoming; Bob Barr, former Representative, State of Georgia; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security approved for full Committee action, as amended, the following bills: S. 1301, Video Voyeurism Prevention Act of 2004; H.R. 1678, Anti-Hoax Terrorism Act of 2004; H.R. 1731, Identity Theft Penalty Enhancement Act; and H.R. 3866, Anabolic Steroid Control Act of 2004.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on S. 1743, Private Security Officer Employment Authorization Act of 2003. Testimony was heard from Michael Kirkpatrick, Assistant Director, Criminal Justice Information Services Division, FBI, Department of Justice; Jeanine Pirro, District Attorney, Westchester County, State of New York; and public witnesses.

ABANDONED MINE RECLAMATION

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 3796, Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation Reform Act of 2004; and H.R. 3778, Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program Extension and Reform Act of 2004. Testimony was heard from Jeff Jarrett, Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior; J. Steven Roberts, Deputy Secretary, Office of Mineral Resources Management, Department of Environmental Protection, State of Pennsylvania; John A. Masterson, Counsel to the Governor, State of Wyoming; Stephen Hohmann, Director, Division of Abandoned Mine Lands, Department for Natural Resources, State of Kentucky; William Michael Sharpe, Assistant Director, AML Program, Conservation Commission, State of Oklahoma; and public witnesses.

PAY PARITY FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a closed rule providing 1 hour of debate on H. Res. 581, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives

regarding rates of compensation for civilian employees and members of the uniformed services of the United States, in the House equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Government Reform. The rule provides one motion to recommit which may not contain instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Davis and Representative Wolf.

TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT: A LEGACY FOR USERS

Committee on Rules: Heard testimony from Chairman Young of Alaska and Representatives Petri, Gilchrest, Quinn, Ehlers, Bachus, LaTourette, LoBiondo, Bereuter, Isakson, Graves, Kennedy of Minnesota, Chocola, Gerlach, Tancredo, Vitter, Flake, Kirk, Bradley of New Hampshire, Oberstar, Lipinski, Menendez, Eddie Bernice Johnson of Texas, Millender-McDonald, Blumenauer, Baird, Carson of Indiana, Davis of Tennessee, Waters, Jackson-Lee of Texas, Turner of Texas, Holt, Lynch and Schiff, but action was deferred on H.R. 3550, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users.

CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS IN MATH AND SCIENCE EDUCATION ACT

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Research approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 4030, Congressional Medal for Outstanding Contributions in Math and Science Education Act.

Prior to this action, the Subcommittee held a hearing on this measure. Testimony was heard from Judith Ramaley, Assistant Director, Education and Human Resources Directorate, NSF; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—INCONSISTENT REGULATION OF WETLANDS AND OTHER WATERS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held an oversight hearing on Inconsistent Regulation of Wetlands and Other Waters. Testimony was heard from Representative Ose; John Paul Woodley, Jr., Assistant Secretary (Civil Works), Department of the Army; Benjamin H. Grumbles, Acting Assistant Administrator, Water, EPA; and public witnesses.

DVA—PROVIDING CERTAIN VETERANS WITH PRESCRIPTION-ONLY HEALTH CARE BENEFIT

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs providing certain veterans with a prescription-only health care benefit. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Jonathan B. Perlin, M.D., Dep-

uty Under Secretary, Health; Michael A. Valentino, Chief Consultant, Pharmacy Benefits Management; and Barbara J. Manning, Program Analyst, Policy and Forecasting Service; representatives of veterans organizations; and a public witness.

TAX RETURN FILING SEASON AND IRS BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing on 2004 Tax Return Filing Season and the IRS Budget for Fiscal Year 2005. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: Mark Everson, Commissioner, IRS; and Nancy Killefer, Chair, IRS Oversight Board; James R. White, Director, Tax Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

COUNTERTERRORISM BUDGET

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to hold a hearing on Counterterrorism Budget. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

NUCLEAR, BIOLOGICAL, CHEMICAL, RADIOLOGICAL THREATS TO THE HOMELAND

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security met in executive session to hold a hearing on Nuclear, Biological, Chemical, Radiological Threats to the Homeland. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

HOMELAND CYBERSECURITY AND DHS ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE BUDGET

Select Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Science and Research and Development held a hearing entitled "Homeland Cybersecurity and DHS Enterprise Architecture Budget Hearing for Fiscal Year 2005." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: Robert Liscouski, Assistant Secretary, Infrastructure Protection; and Steven Cooper, Chief, Information Officer.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2004

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, and Office of Environment, Safety and Health, 10 a.m., SD-138.